

105th Congress, 1st Session - - - - - House Document 105-34

MAKING AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

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COMMUNICATION

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

HIS REQUEST TO MAKE AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS TOTALING \$39.2 MILLION IN BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, AND DESIGNATE THE AMOUNT MADE AVAILABLE AS AN EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(b)(2)(D)(i) OF THE BALANCED BUDGET AND EMERGENCY DEFICIT CONTROL ACT OF 1985, AS AMENDED—RECEIVED IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JANUARY 30, 1997, PURSUANT TO 31 U.S.C. 1107



FEBRUARY 5, 1997.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

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39-012

WASHINGTON : 1997

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*Washington, January 30, 1997.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In accordance with provisions of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 1997, I hereby make available appropriations totaling \$39.2 million in budget authority to the Department of the Interior. These funds will be used to address urgent needs arising from damage caused by natural disasters during the past year. These disasters include floods in the Northwest, wildfires in the West and Rocky Mountain States, and hurricanes on the East Coast.

I designate the following amounts made available to the Department of the Interior as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

Bureau of Land Management, Management of Lands and Resources: \$3,500,000; Oregon and California Grant Lands: \$2,500,000;

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Construction: \$15,891,000; Resource Management: \$600,000;

U.S. Geological Survey, Surveys, Investigations and Research: \$1,138,000;

National Park Service, Construction: \$3,000,000;

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian Programs: \$6,600,000; Construction: \$6,000,000.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

January 30, 1997

THE DIRECTOR

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available previously appropriated emergency funding totaling \$39,229,000 to the Department of the Interior. Your approval of this request would enable the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to repair Federal facilities and restore Federal forest resources that were damaged by floods in the Northwest, wildfires in the West and Rocky Mountain States, and hurricanes on the East Coast. Your approval would also provide funds for the U.S. Geological Survey to cover the costs of extraordinary data collection and documentation associated with Hurricanes Fran and Hortense and other storms.

The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 1997, contained in P.L. 104-208, the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 1997, provided these contingent emergency funds for disaster assistance costs. The availability of these funds was made contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

I recommend that you designate this request as an emergency funding requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be required.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of the Interior in recommending that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Franklin D. Raines  
Director

Enclosure

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED MADE  
AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

Sec. 101(d), the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 1997, contained in P.L. 104-208, the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 1997, which was enacted on September 30, 1997, provided contingent emergency funding to address needs resulting from damage caused by recent natural disasters. These disasters include floods in the Northwest, wildfires in the West and Rocky Mountain States, and hurricanes on the East Coast during the past year. The availability of these funds was made contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

At this time, a total of \$39,229,000 is needed to address urgent needs and is being made available to the following programs in the amounts specified.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Management of Lands and Resources . . . . . \$3,500,000

This \$3.5 million is urgently needed to return public lands in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming to full pre-fire resource potential.

Oregon and California Grant Lands . . . . . \$2,500,000

This \$2.5 million is urgently needed to return public lands in Oregon to full pre-fire resource potential.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Construction . . . . . \$15,891,000

This \$15.9 million is urgently needed to repair damage caused by hurricanes, floods, and other acts of nature. Funds are required at numerous refuges and hatcheries to recover from hurricanes and floods on the East Coast as well as from floods and drought in the Midwest and Southwest. Included are funds needed to replace the pier at Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge in South Carolina which was damaged by Hurricane Fran, as well as a host of road repair, beach erosion, and cleanup projects at other refuges and hatcheries.

Resources Management.....\$600,000

This \$0.6 million is urgently needed to return Fish and Wildlife Service lands in New Mexico to full pre-fire resource potential.

#### U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Surveys, Investigations and Research . . . . \$1,138,000

This \$1.1 million is urgently needed, primarily to cover the cost of extraordinary data collection and documentation in Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico resulting from Hurricanes Fran and Hortense, as well as in Idaho, Maine, and Minnesota from other storms.

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Construction . . . . . \$3,000,000

This \$3.0 million is urgently needed to repair damage caused by hurricanes: Hurricane Bertha in the Virgin Islands and Hurricanes Fran and Hortense in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The most significant damage occurred at the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Shenandoah National Park, the George Washington Parkway and Park Service facilities at Harpers Ferry, all in Virginia.

#### BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Operation of Indian Programs . . . . . \$6,600,000

Of the \$6.6 million, \$5.6 million is urgently needed to restore Indian lands damaged by fire. These funds are also urgently needed to return other Indian lands in Arizona, California, Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington to full pre-fire resource potential.

The remaining \$1 million is urgently needed to assist the Mescalero Apache Tribe in New Mexico to recover from flood damage.

Construction . . . . . \$6,000,000

This \$6.0 million is needed to repair flood damage on the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation in New Mexico. Costs include emergency stabilization of tow dams and emergency road repair.